

ward position and I think a short explanatory statement is probably in order.

On the one hand, as Chairman of the Committee, I feel a sense or degree of loyalty to the Committee; on the other hand, as an elected delegate to the Convention as well as a representative of my constituents back home, I have some mixed emotions on it. I think that one thing that can be said though, is that one thing that the majority and the minority report both firmly agree upon is our concern for education and the sincere desire to perpetuate and guarantee the best educational program that we can for our children and for the State of Maryland.

The only difference as I see it between the majority and minority reports is the approach to it. Because I basically agree with the simplicity of the Minority Report on a philosophical basis only, and feel that education in the future can better be served by continuing with flexible implementation as needs may occur, I found that I had to join in the Minority Report.

To give the Majority Report under these circumstances I think would be hypocritical on my own part. Therefore Delegate Wheatley will very eloquently give the Majority Report.

Because of my conflict as Chairman of the Committee, I feel that it would be equally as bad to give the Minority Report and therefore Delegate Lord, not in parenthesis, will give the Minority Report. As for myself, I intend to vote and probably remain discretely silent on this, but may I just leave this one thought.

I certainly can predict no blood bath nor am I bitterly opposed to anything or anyone, I gave that up years ago and I am sure that this educational process will be hammered out in a democratic and amiable manner.

Thank you very much, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: Under the circumstances, the Chair recognizes Delegate Wheatley, Vice Chairman of the Committee, to make a presentation on behalf of the Committee. I request that he come forward to the Clerk's desk.

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: Mr. Chairman, and fellow delegates, this is perhaps one of the most heralded moments of the Convention. As our Chairman has indicated, the Committee on General Provisions will finally report on education. While I have not solicited the opportunity to make this report, nonetheless I feel it is of

service to the Convention to present the views of the majority of the Committee. I might add as is traditional with most of the issues of the General Provisions Committee there was a very close majority, eight to seven, so that the remarks that I am making while limited to the majority will, of course, not be including those who will be reported on as indicated by Delegate Lord for the minority.

The meaning of the General Provisions Committee's Majority Report has been interpreted to you by many sources: the minority itself, the governor, the news columns, editorials as well as individuals and delegates and groups opposed to its provisions. Let me reaffirm the statements made by the Chairman. I can assure you there will be no anticipated blood bath nor do we plan as some members have suggested that a choir of school children shall sing carols from the balcony. In place of both of these suggestions I would like to take this opportunity from the General Provisions Committee to be the first Committee in its report to extend to you season's greetings.

We do not, of course, in any way anticipate long debate and for that reason would hope that the Committee may be quite succinct in its presentation. In further amplifying our earlier statements, quite to the contrary, there is no power grab implied by the Majority Report except for that which would be a power grab that might be interpreted to protect the educational rights of the residents of the states. The Majority Report hopes to discuss point by point what it believes to be the basic purposes of good constitutions, namely that of providing the basic structure and allocating powers. From the start I wish to make it abundantly clear, that all members of the Committee, both the majority and minority, worked diligently to ascertain the necessary background to make these vital decisions. The Committee spent twenty-one hearing days getting testimony from eighty-three witnesses, seven of whom were delegates to this Convention. Included in the list were representatives of the following national organizations: United States Office of Education, the National Association of State Universities and of Land Grant Colleges, the American Association of Junior Colleges, the Research Division of the Education Association, representatives of the AFL-CIO and the Association of State Colleges and Universities. Representatives at all levels of education, private and public were heard from, including local boards of education, the State Board of Education, the University of Maryland, state colleges,